



# ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

# News Release

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
May 6, 2002

**MEDIA CONTACT:**  
Nicole Hall, Supervising Public Information Officer,  
Phone: (858) 492-5009 / Cell phone: (858) 518-7774

## **FORMER CITY COUNCILMEMBER JUDY McCARTY AND LOCAL BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS RECOGNIZED AS ENVIRONMENTAL AND RECYCLING LEADERS**

**SAN DIEGO, CA--** City of San Diego Mayor Dick Murphy and County Supervisor Pam Slater honored 42 local businesses and organizations for their innovative waste reduction and recycling programs during the Annual San Diego Earth Works VIP (Very Important Planet) Reception Wednesday, April 24, 2002, at the City of San Diego's Ridgehaven Green Building. In addition, the Environmental Services Department presented the Environmental Champion Award for 2002 to a San Diegan whose vision, commitment and advocacy for waste reduction and recycling has made significant and positive impact on the environment and quality of life in San Diego.

Twelve companies and organizations located in the City of San Diego, selected from approximately 39 nominees, received the Recycler of the Year Award for 2002. The remaining nominees were given either the Director's Recycling Award or Honorable Mention for their waste reduction programs. In addition to the award winners, two City of San Diego departments, who have partnered with the City's Environmental Services Department to develop waste reduction and recycling programs, accepted the Environmental Partner Award and one company received the Climate Wise Energy Star Partner of the Year award.

"San Diego businesses produce more than two-thirds of all the paper waste that enters the City of San Diego's Miramar Landfill," said Richard L. Hays, director of the Environmental Services Department, City of San Diego. "While it's our job to keep the landfill open for as long as we can by conserving space, we can't do it alone. Companies who take the initiative, such as our Recyclers of the Year, to develop waste reduction and recycling programs really help make a difference in the quality of our city's environment today and in the future."

Former Councilmember Judy McCarty was selected to receive the first Environmental Champion Award for her efforts to further waste reduction and recycling in San Diego during her 15 years as a member of the City Council. Highlights of her environmental achievements include leadership of a regional task force on recycling, active involvement in community cleanups and instrumental role in expanding curbside recycling to all city residents.

~more~

## ***ADD Page 2--Waste Reduction and Recycling Awards...***

Award-winning businesses and organizations were recognized in five different categories: Recycler of the Year (12 winners); Environmental Partners (2); Director's Recycling Awards (12 winners); Honorable Mentions (15 winners); and Climate Wise Energy Star Partner of the Year (1):

**Recyclers of the Year** include:

**-Gold Mine Natural Food Company** has been a leader in environmental stewardship and has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to resource conservation through its award-winner waste reduction program. The hallmark of the program is the reuse of clean cardboard boxes and packing material, which are collected from local businesses. By recycling, they have been able to achieve a 75 percent diversion rate and produce an annual savings of \$33,682.

**-Harper Construction Company, Inc., Watkins Contracting, Inc. and The Corky McMillin Companies** have implemented an aggressive waste management and recycling plan for the Liberty Station (former Naval Training Center) Redevelopment Project. Recycling measures incorporated include: aggressive crushing of asphalt, concrete, and landscape materials; salvage and donation of numerous personal property items; and widespread renovations of existing buildings in lieu of demolition.

**-Kaiser Permanente's** commitment to the community is the driving motivation behind the recycling efforts. Kaiser goes beyond the traditional easy to recycle materials. In addition, all potential vendors, contractors, and sub-contractors are required to abide by Kaiser's recycling program. Kaiser's recycling efforts divert 77,000 pounds of materials from landfills per month.

**-Kyocera America, Inc.** has continued to improve its successful waste reduction and recycling program. In 2001, Kyocera America achieved a recycling rate of 68.2 percent for all waste generated and successfully diverted 858,045 pounds of material from the landfill, which resulted in a \$23,000 savings. In addition, water was recycled at a rate of 61.47 percent and produced an annual savings of \$300,000.

**-Kyocera Wireless Corporation (KWC)** operates a very aggressive waste reduction and recycling program. In 2001, KWC achieved a cost savings of \$2,418,560 and diverted a total of 1,995,802 pounds from the landfill. These results have been achieved by exceptional efforts including an 80 percent reduction in size of individual cellular phone packaging, refurbishing used batteries, and setting annual goals to continually improve their recycling ratio.

**-Narven Enterprises, Inc.** maintains an Environmental Management System to improve its environmental management and reduce the environmental impacts of its operations, activities and services. Quality Inn & Suites and Comfort Inn, the hotels it manages, are the only hotels in the west coast to achieve ISO 14001 certification. All rooms and offices are equipped with one blue recycling container and one waste can. Guests are encouraged to recycle and employees receive continuous training.

~more~

**-Ocean Beach People's Organic Foods Co-op (People's)** continues to improve its already aggressive waste reduction and recycling program. In 2001, People's increased its recycling rate from 80 to 90 percent and reduced disposal costs to below \$300 a month. Elements of its successful program include consistent recycling education to staff and customers, rewarding customers who bring their own shopping bags, and providing easy access recycling receptacles.

**-Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC)** continues to reduce the amount of waste it disposes by recycling, reducing, reusing, and purchasing recycled products. Employees are educated and encouraged to recycle through e-mail and flyers posted in kitchens, lunchrooms and utility rooms. SAIC has achieved revenues exceeding \$62,000 and savings of \$36,000 in disposal service fees.

**-Unisys** is committed to the continual improvement of their Environmental Management System. In addition to a commitment from all site employees, Unisys has assigned three full-time employees to the collection, segregation, and stockpiling of materials for recycling or reuse. Environmental Bulletin Boards show employees where recyclables are to be placed. In 2001, Unisys recycled more than 636 tons of materials and achieved a cost savings estimated at more than \$121,000.

**-United States Postal Service** has a strong waste reduction and recycling program. Employees are kept informed of recycling efforts and are rewarded for their contributions with prizes and special achievement awards. In 2001, their efforts generated \$132,463 in revenue, saved \$68,697 in landfill charges, and recycled approximately 979 pallets and 7,009 tons of material.

**-University of San Diego (USD)** has a comprehensive recycling program, which includes the campus, print shop and dining services. A web site has been established for the University that provides recycling information. USD has teamed up with the student chapter of The Environmental Action Group to disseminate information to the students and get feedback. USD has recycled more than 315 tons of commodities, diverted 5,015 cubic yards from the landfill, and avoided approximately \$12,695 in costs.

In addition, the City recognized two Environmental Partners which are the City of San Diego, General Services Department (Purchasing Division) for implementing a Policy for Environmentally Preferable Purchases and the City's Transportation Department (Street Division) for reducing the amount of debris, generated from street repairs and resurfacing, from entering the landfill.

The Climate Wise-Energy Star Partner of the Year was awarded to San Diego State University (SDSU) for its commitment to energy efficiency and sustainability through constantly seeking innovative technologies and using energy-saving practices such as cogeneration and high-efficiency lighting.

The Director's Recycling Award winners are: Albertson's Inc.; Biosite Incorporated; Goodwill Industries of San Diego County, Inc.; InfoGation Corporation; La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club, Inc.; Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego; Target Corporation – Target Stores; Sony Electronics Inc.; Teradeta, a division of NCR Corp; TRW Radio Systems; Vons A Safeway Company; and Westfield Shoppingtown Mission Valley.

**ADD Page 4--*Waste Reduction and Recycling Awards...***

The Honorable Mention Award winners comprise: Bazaar del Mundo; Cox Communications; ENCAD, Inc.; Hewlett-Packard Company; Luce, Forward, Hamilton, & Scripps, LLP; Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego; NCS HealthCare; Qualcomm Stadium; Quality Resort Mission Valley; REMEC, Inc.; San Diego Convention Center Corporation; San Diego Marriott Hotel and Marina; Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Enderson & Perry; The Orchard; and The Salvation Army San Diego Silvercrest Residence.

The City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department is charged with refuse collection and disposal, recycling and environmentally sound landfill management to meet the City's long-term disposal needs. The Department also oversees the City's management of energy use and explores innovative options for energy independence. For more information on Environmental Services, visit its Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/index.shtml> .

###